



It's a Digital World!

This year, more than 2.7 billion people are using the internet. In the last five years, the price of broadband internet has dropped by 82%. Now here's the amazing statistic...there are 3.5 billion toothbrushes in the world...and 6.8 billion mobile phone subscriptions. That's right – nearly twice as many mobile phone subscriptions as toothbrushes. 90% of the world's population has access to a mobile network, and by 2016 India will rank among the top five smart phone markets in the world, attracting 10% of global sales.

Only a few years ago social media was seen as a passing fad – a distraction. Now it is not only integrated into the lives of people and businesses, but is defining the development of communication.

This growth in digital channels is not confined to the

developed world. There are twice as many users of the internet in the developing world as there are in the developed world. And in the last four years, internet penetration in households has grown fastest in Africa, with an annual growth of 27%. The United Nations recently declared internet access a basic human right.

These statistics are hugely important. They graphically illustrate the fast-changing trends of communication; the rapid changes in the ways we interact with information and with each other.

In 1455 Gutenberg printed 200 copies of the Bible – the first Bible ever printed. That one development changed the world.

It changed the ability of people to experience the Bible first-hand. It heralded the age of publishing. Few other events in the history of humanity have been more influential than the Gutenberg's invention of the printing press.

Our swiftly developing digital age is like that...but bigger. What an opportunity! Let us talk to our children in the language they are learning. Let us meet them in the world in which they are growing up.

James Burden
Executive Director, Perfectly Digital, and Project Leader of 'CUBE'



The next big thing in Bible Engagement...



CUBE

Have you ever wondered what the next big thing in children's Bible engagement might be? We have, often – and we're doing something about it!

CUBE is a very short working title for a massive, online, virtual-world project for 8- to 11-year-olds. The aim is to help children to engage with the Bible, pray, and grow in their faith in God. SU England and Wales and American Bible Society, in consultation with SU movements around the world and the Global Children's Forum, are partnering in the CUBE project.

Children are often supported in their Christian faith by family, church groups or (in some parts of the world) schools, but CUBE will make the Bible and great Bible engagement available to children who have never experienced it before – and it will be free-of-charge!

We plan to launch an English version first, with other languages following soon after.

The aim is to release a beta version around Easter 2014. To stay in touch with developments before then, please add your contact details at www.projectcube.org



BEY: Bible Engagement for Youth

BEY is an exciting international project aiming to transform young people, their communities and their cultures. The aim is for young people to experience the Bible in community, as a lived-out story not just information, and with raw honesty. It is a partnership between SU International, SU England & Wales, SU Australia, American Bible Society and Bible Society Australia and is in the first year of a three-year pilot project.

The aims of the pilot are:

- to establish a thriving global network of ministry leaders reshaping youth Bible engagement and changing ministry practice
- to develop new ways of engaging young people with the Bible.

We are developing a range of youth Bible engagement ideas with a particular focus on social media. These will be tested with regional networks of ministry leaders, which will provide a test base and a global learning network. By investing in leaders we hope to bring about changes in local practice.

The regional networks will be supported by a global communications strategy, aimed at recruiting new communities and stimulating reflection on youth Bible engagement.

The partnership's five key values are: face to face relationships; collaborative working; permission to explore; enabling leaders; and continual learning.

Each partner organisation brings their experience and expertise to the project. Like the pilot, the long-term goal is a movement of ministry leaders, thoughtfully reshaping Bible engagement for young people across the world.

We'd love to see many other SU national movements and organisations involved. Contact Clayton Fergie, SU's International Youth Ministry Coordinator, for more details: claytonf@su-international.org

theWordSpace – SU South Africa

'100 word posts on your phone to help you connect with God in the small spaces of your day'. That's how we in SU South Africa explain our exciting new youth programme.

The means and media may have changed, but the heart remains – to engage young people (and old) with God in his Word *every day!* theWordSpace has grown very nicely and is finding traction among young people. The daily Bible messages delivered directly (and free-of-charge) are now being used regularly by 2,500 people across our country.

The overwhelming feedback from a recent survey of users was that the messages are relevant and encourage a daily engagement with God around a Scripture passage. Please pray that we reach our goal of 30,000 daily users across Southern Africa in this year! See <http://thewordspace.mobi>



Livinghope

Phase 3 Update

The Living Hope Phase 3 process continues to move forward, and it has been encouraging hearing firsthand about the resulting initiatives and partnerships that are being formed. Of utmost importance is that we continue to pray together as we seek God's will for the future of SU. I pray that you will be encouraged by this update.

Community Listening Report: All movements should have received the Living Hope Community Listening Summary Report. If not, you can find it on the Living Hope website. Work continues on translation of the full 90 page report.

Responses to Global and National Priorities: Thank you to all who completed the survey. Responses are being collated and the adjusted priorities will assist the Phase 3 Group to draft practical plans in September. Work has already begun on a number of priorities. Draft plans should be with you by the end of October.

Coach / Consultant for development of a framework: David Newby will be serving as coach / consultant in this process. David heads up DNA Consulting, providing organisational and leadership development services to organisations in the social sector. From South Africa, David served as a Methodist Minister for 17 years. He has been involved in SU since his youth and has assisted SU Africa in strategy development. His wife, Alison, works with him.

Survey of partnerships: Several Regions have introduced partnerships between Movements over the past five years. Partnership strategies differ in nature and length of time, and some are more formal than others. Most are designed to enhance relationships, support and the sharing of resources.

As part of the Living Hope process, a review of existing partnership arrangements will inform future development and a future framework/structure. The survey is being carried out in Movements that Regions have identified as being actively involved in partnership / companionship relationships. The outcomes of the survey will be reviewed in October 2013.

Other faiths initial consultancy: In October, an initial consultation will begin work on SU's approach to working with children, young people and families of other faiths. A small group of SU staff actively engaged in issues related to this type of ministry will meet with consultants for initial discussions. They aim to identify theological, missiological, contextual and practical issues, and to consider the questions that need to be addressed as we respond to this priority.

LSDC 2014: Planning is well underway for the LSDC scheduled for 9–23 November 2014. Jorunn Sjaastad, SU Norway National Leader and member of the SU International Executive, leads the planning team. A gap of four years since the last course (due to Living Hope) probably means a large number of participants. A venue is yet to be chosen, but information will be sent out regularly.

Other Developments: We have been encouraged by the growing sense of fellowship and desire to share ministry and resources. Here are a few examples:

- Movements in Europe and Britain & Ireland are thinking creatively about how they can partner in the development of young leaders.
- French-speaking Movements want to work more closely together in strategic development. A group of leaders will meet in October to discuss this.
- The Publishing Core Group have identified online resource-sharing as a major priority, and hope to commence work on this soon.

Thank you to all who continue to contribute and share responsibility for ministry, leadership, and organisational development through the Living Hope Process.

Janet Morgan
International Director



theStory™

This free online daily Bible reading guide in English and French is SU



Canada's latest publication. The development team of about 100 writers, ten translators, one managing editor, two editors, two copy editors, three publishing system developers and two administrators have spent more than a year bringing theStory™ to fruition. People are subscribing daily. Please pray for the development team and for the success of the promotions and marketing. Pray too that theStory™ will be an instrument that enables people to walk in the Word, encounter Jesus Christ and better live lives to his honour and glory. See <http://thestory.scriptureunion.ca>

Global Week of Prayer

November 3rd to 9th

For many years the SU International Week of Prayer has taken place in November. This has provided an opportunity for SU Movements, friends and supporters to pray for children, youth, and families and SU's leaders and ministries.

The Living Hope process identified the need to build the prayer life of Scripture Union around the world. This year the Week of Prayer will be different, providing a greater opportunity for everyone to participate and share prayers and requests. Each Movement, with Regional and International staff and volunteers, friends and supporters, will be given specific times in the week to pray. As prayer moves around the globe during the week, we will seek to immerse the SU family in prayer 24/7. A general prayer guide will be provided and there will also be opportunity for continual updates via Facebook. We will officially start on Monday morning, 4th (which will still be Sunday 3rd for some) and continue through Friday, 8th (which will already be Saturday, 9th for some) Specific dates and times will be sent to Movements in due course. Make sure you note the date NOW and plan to be involved throughout the week.



Release of Bible notes

Côte d'Ivoire

What has already proven to be a busy year for SU in Côte d'Ivoire started with a bang! Almost 150 people attended the Agape New Year Celebration 2013 at SU headquarters to thank God for the past year, pray for the year ahead and share a meal. It was a great start.

Bible reading is an important part of our ministry here and in January we were able to make presentations in two churches launching our 2013 Bible Reading notes *Le Lecteur de la Bible* (The Bible Reader). This was tied in with the National Bible Reading Day. Following this we arranged training for radio presenters in broadcasting meditations from the Bible using *Le Lecteur de la Bible*.

We have also been busy with other kinds of training. Marriage and family is an important area and in March we held a training course for marriage counsellors. March also saw the end of a five-month training course for married and engaged couples, with a ceremony at SU Headquarters to celebrate.

Young people play an important part in the life of SU here. We are grateful for the generosity of students from schools partnering with SU who have contributed funds to enable us to assist students orphaned or at risk as a result of HIV. Training for our young people has included seminars on subjects as diverse as Educational Success, Servant Leadership and Sexuality. But we have not forgotten their teachers and 53 religious education teachers took part in training at SU Headquarters in April, which equipped them to fulfil their vocation as effective models for children.

With so many opportunities we are conscious of the needs of our ministry. Please pray with us about our plans to construct a 100 bed accommodation centre and 1,000 seat auditorium, and funding for the varied SU activities.

Our country still has great needs especially in the light of the past troubles. Please continue to pray for peace and stability.



SU Colombia

A Normal Day in SU Colombia

For decades Colombia has been torn apart by war between the Army, loyal to the Government, the terrorist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the drug cartels. Thousands of innocent people have been killed and hundreds of children forced to become soldiers. This story is a testimony of God's love for these children.

Barranquilla, on the Caribbean coast, far from these troubles, is a prosperous industrial city. Many have relocated there, fleeing from the madness of war. But there is another world in Barranquilla, a cruel world of poverty and displacement.

Saturday afternoon. The air is very hot, the sun fierce. In the forgotten lower Barranquilla, in San Felipe, there is complete silence. Nobody is on the street – it is too hot. But not for long...

SU Colombia comes down the hill. Suddenly the street is buzzing with hundreds of children. Where did they all come from? Mums take out their chairs and sit on the sidewalk. Men? No, there are none! Gone, dead. The few left are drunk or high on drugs.

Songs, Bible stories, games, a cool drink and pastries. SU National Director Pastor Joe Mendoza, his wife Gloria, Board members and volunteers invade the streets with their joy and celebration. At the same time the volunteers engage with the mothers in family counselling, child education, protection (especially for young girls) and Christian values.

Suddenly the streets are silent again, but nobody has gone. It's time for Bible stories and reflecting. Everybody takes part – and they take it very seriously. This is hope for them! They know God loves them!

Before leaving, the SU team serve cold drinks and pastries. They will be back next Saturday. For the guerrilla victims in Barranquilla, who have suffered so much trauma, hope and love are the key words for their broken hearts.



E&W Asia Combined ISCF Camp in SMK Tutoh Apoh

God is Good – Schools Ministry in Sarawak

SU Sarawak's Inter-School Christian Fellowship (ISCF) is currently active in 170 schools. During this past year about 12,000 students attended ISCF camps, seminars and weekly meetings throughout the state. Many have received Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

Through ISCF Ministry, the Gospel had spread to the interior of Sarawak. Many people in long houses have become Christians through students who accepted Christ as their Saviour in school. We may not be able to go to the interior, but the students go back home during the school holidays and testify about the goodness of God.

A 17 year old Form 5 student received Christ at a student camp. When she returned home her parents noticed the change in her life. She told her parents that Jesus had transformed her life and blessed her study. Later both her parents became Christians.

There are 1,264 primary schools and 178 secondary schools in Sarawak. That's the field that God has given us. SU Sarawak needs considerable funding each month to run this wonderful ministry. This calls for greater partnership with local churches to help us to reach out to students.

Please pray for SU Staff, that the Lord will guide and protect them as they travel and minister to various ISCF groups in Sarawak. Please pray for Pastor Yusuf Anyi in Kuching, Pastor Billy Agan Paran in Sibu, Pastor Zeliman Rining in Miri, and Pastor Yahya Akaw in Limbang.



ISCF Camp



SU Switzerland, refugees – a meal

CABES – Befriending Refugees in Switzerland

What does ‘CABES’ mean? Let’s learn a bit of French!

- C = ‘contact’
- A = ‘amitié’ – friendship
- B = Bible
- E = ‘étranger’ – foreigners
- S = ‘Suisse’ – Swiss

For 11 years my family and I lived and worked in a country where Christians were under great pressure from the dominant faith. Then I was told, ‘Joel you have to come back to Switzerland. It is too dangerous to stay there.’

It was a frustrating situation, but I came back and was asked to lead work among foreigners, mainly refugees. Now, although I am living in a Western country, I am surrounded by foreigners, mostly of the same faith I was working with overseas. So what’s different?

In Switzerland I can share the Gospel freely and reach people from many nations. CABES means that I meet the people God sends!

Our team seeks to share the love of God with non-Western foreigners who come to French-Speaking Switzerland seeking refuge or escaping economic hardship. Our work involves reception, friendship and sharing the Gospel message. Alongside this we aim to encourage other Christians in Switzerland to meet foreigners, approaching them with humility.

Eight to ten times a year we organise large meetings for 150-200 people at the SU camp site in Vennes. There is music, games, a message of hope and a free meal. We visit our friends in the centres in which they live or in their homes, and organise a small house group for people who want to know more about the Gospel.

Once a year we run a camp for children of refugee families. This gives the children a week of holidays, while discovering the richness of different cultures and learning to live in harmony with each other.

We went to serve God with people overseas but now He has brought them to us. What a great opportunity!



Moscow Winter Camp

‘I’ve never read such an interesting book before’

The SU Moscow Winter Camp 2013 was called ‘Not just Christmas Trees’ and focused on celebrations. We looked at New Year – new promises and expectations; the Feast of Tabernacles – all our hope is in God; Purim – God is our protection and our salvation; Christmas and Easter – God saves.

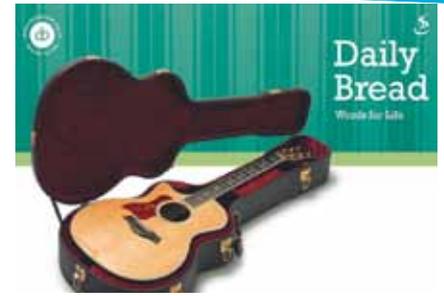
Here is what some leaders said afterwards:

Explaining and trying to live out traditions is good! The most memorable was probably building shelters at the Feast of Tabernacles. Teams of 5-6 built shelters out of snow and branches. It brought many kids closer. At bedtime, we went outside and prayed with candles in our shelters. There was a very warm atmosphere despite the cold. In one shelter they prayed holding hands and when it was time to go indoors to bed they stayed that way – continuing to hold hands. (A leader)

My group were amazing kids – ready to play, to be inventive, read God’s Word and not quarrel!

In 4-5 days of living together very closely I didn’t see a single quarrel among kids who were so different to each other in age and thinking. If there was anything wrong it was quickly forgiven and the life of camp went on. That was one more confirmation for me that life in peace is possible only in the company of God.

‘Will we have Bible study tomorrow?’ a young boy asked anxiously. Smiling, I told him it’s the most important thing in camp. He said, ‘I so liked reading the Bible! I’ve never read such an interesting book before.’



Daily Bread

New SU England and Wales Daily Bread app

SU England and Wales have taken the Daily Bread Bible guide and turned it into an app for iPhone and iPad. Featuring the same content as its printed counterpart, this app is a new and exciting way for people to receive *Daily Bread*. The app is free to download with free content as a taster, with the option to then purchase a subscription.

Daily Bread has been used by thousands of people for over 70 years and is still the top selling adult Bible guide from SU England & Wales. *Daily Bread* breaks up books of the Bible into short series with a new passage each day. The daily reflections are written by writers from around the world, such as Vicky Kowarick, David Lawrence, Bruce Dutton, John Grayston, Elaine Duncan, David Tolputt, Sue Rinaldi and Mark Greene.

The *Daily Bread* app has a number of key features. You can:

- browse reflections by date, author and Bible reading
- bookmark your favourite daily entries for easy reference
- see reflections for the week ahead
- follow Bible reference links to Bible Gateway (NIV) – no need for a separate Bible app.



The *Daily Bread* Bible reading app is published by Scripture Union England and Wales. For more information visit www.scriptureunion.org.uk



South Asia – Sri Lanka

SU Schools Ministry in Sri Lanka

Each month SU volunteers work in 25 schools in the Colombo district, guided by three full-time SU staff. During the 40 minute sessions, children enjoy a lively time of singing, a scripture lesson and closing prayer. Most sessions are attended by nominally Christian children. The aim is for students to develop a relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Many children have come to know the Lord during the last year and we help them grow in the Christian faith. Many have started to read their Bibles regularly and some use daily devotional books such as *Daily Power*. Some past students are now volunteers in the ministry.

We have a number of challenges. The greatest is finding dedicated volunteers so that we can expand the work to other schools. We also need another full-time staff member gifted in music. Following up children who make commitments to follow Jesus is very difficult. An ongoing programme for their spiritual growth is a great need. Finances are also an issue. It is difficult to give gifts to the children on special occasions, and the regular hire of a vehicle and a portable multimedia and sound system causes ongoing pressure.

Please pray for the children and that the Lord will provide for this ministry. Thank you for your prayer and partnership.



Pacific – SU Fiji

Land for God in Fiji!

What do you do with sixteen acres of land on a hill overlooking Nadi International Airport and the major tourist islands of Fiji? If you're SU Fiji, you build a camp on it! The land, donated by two brothers from Viseisei Village, will be developed by SU Fiji to train and nurture the young people of Fiji to be God-fearing leaders.

The plan is to develop it in three stages over the next four years, at a total cost of about \$200,000 Fiji (US\$108,000). The proposed plan includes a camp site to cater for about 200-250 campers and motel accommodation for about 100 guests.

Please pray for wisdom for all involved and for the resources to see this project through to completion.



SU Solomon Islands

SU Solomon Islands

SU Solomon Islands knows the value of the media. Photos of camps, sports, outreach programmes, school visits and other activities are used in newsletters and sent to the media. Local television has covered a KidsGames workshop and the *Solomon Star* newspaper has reported the KidsGames initiative. Social networks like Facebook are also used to give programme and activity updates. Digital media helps pass on news to local partners and SU around the world.



Kenya Peace Rally

Exciting Opportunities in Kenya: Peace!

Kenya's National General Elections took place peacefully in March 2013. Many groups prayed and peace campaigns were held. SU Kenya, in partnership with 10 other agencies, organised a peace and prayer rally in Nairobi on 10 February attended by 6,000 children and students.

Republic of Ireland

Over the past four or five years God has been at work, impacting and changing the lives of hundreds of young people in Ireland through collaborative mission and amazing new ministry opportunities.

A key catalyst has been the *It's Your Move* programme and collaboration with the Catholic Diocese of Dublin. This Scripture-based resource for Irish young people assists with the challenging transition from primary to secondary school and is reaching into schools, many in socially disadvantaged areas. Midweek Adventure Retreats have been added to the programme of daylong retreats in secondary schools. In addition, in the past year nearly 400 young people have participated in the 10 week Youth Alpha course. Another programme, *Ember Teams*, works with senior school students to develop leadership and faith. These and other new and exciting ministry opportunities presently reach nearly 2,000 young people with whom we have never had an opportunity to engage.

Please pray as our resources are severely stretched.



14-20 OCT 2013



Exposed: Shining a Light on Corruption 14 - 20 October 2013

Micah Challenge is seeking to challenge the global Church, business and governments through the **Shine a Light** campaign. Corruption is found in every country in the world and obstructs justice, steals money, and robs children, young people and adults of hope. Micah Challenge is urging Christians to realise their voices together in a united response against corruption. A toolkit is available at www.exposed2013.com Consider how your SU Movement can participate as a way of bringing hope to children, young people and families.



Scripture Union International People News

Appointments



Emmanuel Todjo has been appointed as Africa Region Ministry Training Coordinator. Emmanuel is from Cameroon where he has been the SU National Director. He brings a lot of experience to this role having also been Director of Central West Subregion, a facilitator at the Leading Staff Development Course and Shaping for Service, and initiated training for staff and volunteers in many countries in the Central West Subregion.



Rose Gamedze has been appointed as the new National Director of SU Swaziland. She has a great passion for children with 30 years' teaching experience and has established SU Fellowships in schools. The new National Chairperson is Mrs Happiness Mkhathshwa.



Josué Sossou, one of the SU Bénin staff team, is the new editor of *la Lecteur*, the French edition of the SU daily reading notes. He has previously studied sociology and youth work. We are grateful to Daniel Besse, the previous editor, who has agreed to mentor Josué. We wish Josué God's blessing in this new and responsible role.



Lasse Holmgaard Iversen is the new National Director of SU Denmark. He is 31 years old and married to Malene. Lasse is a theologian with a warm heart for international work.



Jason Fong has been appointed Ministry Director for SU East & West Asia. Jason began serving the region as Youth Ministry Coordinator in January 2011 and was appointed Team Leader of the Regional Ministry Team in October 2012.



Franklin McGibbon was appointed General Manager of Students Christian Fellowship & Scripture Union (SCFSU) in January 2013. Franklin is a former Company Financial Controller and Project & Training consultant. In addition to being involved in a number of education associations, he has served as camp leader and mentor for youth from inner-city communities. He serves as a Deacon in his home church and is married to Karen. They have two children, Dane (18 years) and Mercedes (15 years).

Farewell

Kudakwashe Gwemende, Director of SU Africa's Subregion South retired on 31 March 2013 after 25 years of very fruitful service to God through SU in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa. On his retirement, Kudakwashe said, 'I do so with my heart full of thanks to God who has been walking with me in all these years of service.'



Emlyn Williams

In March we said farewell to Emlyn Williams, SU Britain & Ireland Regional Director, after more than 35 years on SU staff.



Emlyn joined SU England & Wales in 1977, initially as an ISCF Travelling Secretary. In 1986 he moved to SU Victoria, Australia, as Schools Work Coordinator. On his return to the UK in 1991 he took up the post of Schools Team Trainer and in 1995 became Head of Schools Ministry for SU England & Wales. In addition to providing leadership, support and guidance across the schools team, he also wrote a definitive guide to schools ministry and has regularly contributed as a writer to SU Bible Reading Guides. In 2007 he was appointed Regional Director working with the Britain & Ireland movements, SU International and, in particular, the developing movements in the Former Soviet Republics.

Emlyn's service over this long period has been hugely valued, including his ability to offer new insights based on his own engagement with the Bible, his inquisitive nature which results in new and helpful information, and most especially his friendship across the SU movement globally. Emlyn has also served the global movement, planning LSDC courses, the Living Hope initiative, and assisting with communications.

We give thanks to God for all that Emlyn has contributed and wish him well for the future as he explores new areas of ministry.

Please join us in praying for Emlyn and his wife Tricia, that the Lord will continue to bless and use them in new avenues of service.

Please pray for these key events in 2013...

July - August

Pray for the many summer activities taking place in the Northern Hemisphere

September

Britain & Ireland: General Directors' Meeting (9)

Living Hope: Phase 3 Group Meeting, France (18-23)

SUI: Executive Meeting, France (23)

SUI: Team & Executive, France (24)

SUI: International Team Meeting, France (25-27)

LSDC: Planning Meeting, Vennes (30-2 Oct)

October

SUI: 'Working with Other Faiths' initial consultation, Bangkok (9-11)

SUI: 'Accompaniment' Consultation, Bangkok (16-18)

Africa: Regional Council, Nairobi (27-30)

Africa: Francophone Bible Ministry Consultation, Nairobi (31-2 Nov)

November

GLOBAL WEEK OF PRAYER (3-9)

Europe/FSR/Britain & Ireland:

Fundraising Training, Prague (11-12)

Europe: Sub-Regional Conference

Sub-Region North, Denmark (14-17)

Europe: New Staff Training, Germany (25-29)

Key events in 2014...

March

SUI: LSDC Planning (2-4)

SUI: Executive Meeting (10)

SUI: Team & Executive (11-12)

SUI: International Team (13-14)

May

Europe: Directors' Conference (12-14)

June

South Asia: Council Meeting, Bangkok (5-8)

September

SUI: International Council (19-22)

SUI: Executive Meeting (23)

SUI: Team & Executive Meeting (24)

SUI: Team Meeting (25-26)

November

SUI: Leading Staff Development Course (7-23)

Are there exciting developments in your area of ministry?

Send your news and photos to a1admin@su-international.org



www.su-international.org

Available on the SU International website:

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Global Developments



Sfs Team



Big Bible Challenge

Shaping for Service

Diversity was the outstanding feature of the *Shaping for Service* training that took place in April. Diversity in culture as people from four continents gathered. Diversity in SU experience: from Sarah who had joined the SU staff just 6 months ago, to Paul who for over 44 years has provided leadership for SU Peru and SU Americas. Diversity in roles: regional directors, training coordinators, specialists in children's, youth, Bible, sports and media ministries. Together we found special significance in: the idea of our stories being part of the big story of God and his mission; the three lenses we use when interpreting the Bible; examining the contexts in which we work and the 'deep structures' that reinforce them; and discovering the collaborations that become possible when we know and trust one another. These are all key aspects as Living Hope moves forward.

South Asia Youth Bible Engagement Initiative

In the past six months, SU International has focused on Scripture Engagement amongst South Asian youth as part

of its participation in the Forum of Bible Agencies International.

The aim is to develop approaches that enable

young people to understand Scripture as a narrative in which they are participants, rather than just engaging in an intellectualised way.

We have been involved in research as well as consulting with South Asian youth and Bible focused organisations. This is leading towards a major regional consultation and development event in April 2014 in Sri Lanka.

More details from Clayton Fergie claytonf@su-international.org

The Big Bible Challenge – update

The Big Bible Challenge is now available in 7 languages (English, German, French, Dutch, Welsh, Norwegian, Korean) with 45,000 copies in print.

A Spanish version is about to hit the press. A number of European and East Asia Movements are currently translating the text for publishing in their own languages for use in ministry. Any movements interested in having it in their language should contact Jenny Stewart: jennys@su-international.org for details of what is involved.



East & West Asia Council Meeting

Thank You Tadashi

Almost 50 delegates from 20 countries met in Taiwan in April for the annual Regional Council Meeting.

This was an opportunity to thank **Rev. Tadashi Oyamada**, who retired as CEO of the region, for his service. Tadashi will continue to serve as the General Secretary of SU Japan. We thank God for his ministry and the fellowship we shared at the meeting.